

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

99-0231-UNI
Case No. C3890(C)

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) ~~Use of~~A method of conferring a benefit to a textile fabric by contacting said fabric during laundering thereof with a modified naturally occurring occurring polysaccharide polysaccharide gum having β_{1-4} linkages, the modified polysaccharide having a weight average molecular weight of 250,000 or less, preferably 100,000 or less, more preferably 75,000 or less, to confer a benefit to a textile fabric during laundering thereof.
2. (currently amended) ~~Use according to~~The method of claim 1, wherein the modified polysaccharide is derived from a naturally occurring polysaccharide selected from galactomannan (e.g. derived from locust bean gum or guar gum), glucomannan (e.g. Konjac glucomannan), xyloglucan (e.g. tamarind xyloglucan), xanthan gum and mixtures thereof.
3. (currently amended) ~~Use according to~~The method of claim 1, wherein the modified polysaccharide is neutral or anionic.
4. (previously presented) A detergent composition comprising surfactant and modified polysaccharide as defined in claim 1.

5. (original) A composition according to claim 4, wherein the amount of surfactant is from 5% to 50% by weight of the composition and the amount of modified polysaccharide is from 0.01% to 25% by weight of the composition.

6. (currently amended) ~~Use A method of conferring a benefit to a textile fabric by contacting said fabric during laundering thereof with a polysaccharide gum having β_1 - 4 linkages, to confer a benefit to a textile fabric during laundering thereof.~~

7. (currently amended) ~~Use of The method of claim 6 a polysaccharide gum having β_1 - 4 linkages, to confer a benefit to a textile fabric during laundering thereof, wherein the polysaccharide is an unmodified version of a polysaccharide as defined in claim 3 selected from galactomannan, glucomannan, xyloglucan, xanthan gum and mixtures thereof.~~

8-9 (cancelled)

10. (New) A method of conferring a benefit to a textile fabric by contacting said fabric during laundering thereof with a modified naturally occurring polysaccharide gum having β_1 - 4 linkages, the modified polysaccharide having a weight average molecular weight of 75,000 or less.

11. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the modified polysaccharide is derived from a naturally occurring polysaccharide selected from locust bean gum, guar gum, Konjac glucomannan, tamarind xyloglucan, and mixtures thereof.